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Dated: December 9, 2005

Signature:


(Mary Jane DiPalma)

IAP8 REG PCT/PTO 09 DEC 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ralf Ragnar et al.

Serial No: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 9, 2005

For: PHARMACEUTICALLY USEFUL
SALTS OF CARBOXYLIC ACID
DERIVATES

Attorney Docket No.: ASZD-P01-077

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.